

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend and add new claims as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) An intermediate network device for use in a computer net-
2 work carrying network traffic corresponding to sessions, the intermediate network device
3 comprising:

4 a traffic scheduler having one or more resources for use in forwarding network
5 traffic received at the device at different rates;

6 a classification engine configured to identify the received network traffic based
7 upon predefined criteria; and

8 a resource reservation engine in communicating relationship with the traffic
9 scheduler and the classification engine,

10 wherein, in response to a request to reserve resources for a first session associated
11 with a session group identifier (ID), the resource reservation engine determines whether
12 the session group ID of the first session matches a session group ID of one or more sec-
13 ond sessions for which resources have previously been reserved and, if so, directs the
14 traffic scheduler to share the resources reserved for the one or more second sessions with
15 the first session.

1 2. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 1 wherein
2 the resource reservation engine includes a data structure for storing information
3 for the sessions, and
4 the resource reservation engine stores a session group identifier (ID) for each ses-
5 sion in the data structure.

1 3. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 2 wherein the session group
2 identifier associated with a given session includes a source address of an entity sourcing
3 the traffic flow of the given session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 4. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 3 wherein:
2 the resource reservation engine utilizes the Resource reSerVation Protocol
3 (RSVP) specification standard, and
4 the session group ID of a given session is contained in a RSVP Path message as-
5 sociated with the given session.

1 5. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 4 wherein the first and the
2 one or more second sessions carry voice information.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The intermediate network device of claim 5 wherein the
2 first and the one or more second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The intermediate network device of claim 1 wherein the
2 first and the one or more second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity and are
3 directed to two or more different destination entities.

1 8. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 7 wherein the first and the
2 one or more second sessions carry voice information and correspond to a call waiting
3 context.

1 9. (Original) In a computer network having a plurality of entities interconnected by
2 a plurality of intermediate network devices having one or more resources for use in for-
3 warding network traffic corresponding to sessions, a method for sharing resources re-
4 served for a first session with a second session, the method comprising the steps of:

5 receiving a first resource reservation message associated with a first session, the
6 first resource reservation message specifying a session group identifier (ID);
7 storing the session group ID of the first resource reservation message;
8 reserving resources for use with the first session;
9 receiving a second resource reservation message associated with a second session,
10 the second resource reservation message corresponding to a session group ID;
11 comparing the session group ID associated with the second resource message with
12 the stored session group ID specified by the first resource reservation message; and
13 if the two session group IDs match, sharing the resources reserved for use with
14 the first session with the second session.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the session group identifier associated
2 with a given session includes a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic flow and a
3 resource identifier (ID).

1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the first resource reserva-
2 tion message is a Path message in accordance with the Resource reSerVation Protocol
3 (RSVP) specification standard that has been configured to carry the resource ID.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the second resource reservation mes-
2 sage is a RSVP Resv message corresponding to the second session.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the resource ID is disposed in a re-
2 source ID object of the RSVP Path message.

1 14. (Original) In a sourcing entity interconnected with two or more receiving entities
2 by a computer network having a plurality of intermediate network devices, the devices
3 having one or more resources for use in forwarding network traffic corresponding to ses-

4 sions, a method for sharing resources reserved for a first session with a second session,
5 the method comprising the steps of:

6 generating a first resource reservation message associated with the first session;
7 loading the first resource reservation message with a session group identifier (ID);
8 sending the first resource reservation message with the session group ID toward a
9 first receiving entity;

10 generating a second resource reservation message associated with the second ses-
11 sion;

12 loading the first resource reservation message with the session group identifier
13 used in the first resource reservation message; and

14 sending the second resource reservation message with the session group ID to-
15 ward a second receiving entity,

16 whereby resources reserved for use with the first session are shared with the sec-
17 ond session.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the steps of:

2 generating a locally unique resource identifier (ID) value; and

3 generating the session group ID based on the resource ID value.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the session group ID includes a
2 source address of the sourcing entity and the resource ID.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the first and second re-
2 source reservation messages are Path messages in accordance with the Resource reSerVa-
3 tion Protocol (RSVP) specification standard that have been configured to carry the re-
4 source ID.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the first and second sessions carry voice
2 information and correspond to a call waiting context.

Please add new claims 19-74:

1 19. (New) A method for reserving resources by a network device for transmission of
2 messages through a computer network comprising:

3 initiating a first session by the network device;

4 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
5 packets of the first session;

6 initiating one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first session;

7 and

8 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
9 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
10 sessions having the same session ID.

1 20. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising:

2 including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a resource
3 reservation engine, and

4 storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the resource reser-
5 vation engine.

1 21. (New) The method of claim 20 further comprising:

2 identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic
3 flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 22. (New) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

2 utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification standard in the
3 resource reservation engine, and

4 inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associated with the
5 given session.

- 1 23. (New) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second sessions.

- 1 24. (New) The method of claim 23 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity.

- 1 25. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more different
4 destination entities.

- 1 26. (New) The method of claim 25 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context over the
3 first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.

- 1 27. (New) A network device for reserving resources in transmission of messages
2 through a computer network comprising:
3 means for initiating a first session by the network device;
4 means for identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (ses-
5 sion ID) into packets of the first session;
6 means for initiating one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first
7 session; and
8 means for transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share
9 resources between the first session and the second session in response to both the first
10 and second sessions having the same session ID.

1 28. (New) The device of claim 27 further comprising:
2 means for including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a
3 resource reservation engine, and
4 means for storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the re-
5 source reservation engine.

1 29 (New) The device of claim 28 further comprising:
2 means for identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing
3 the traffic flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 30. (New) The device of claim 29 further comprising:
2 means for utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification stan-
3 dard in the resource reservation engine, and
4 means for inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associ-
5 ated with the given session.

1 31. (New) The device of claim 30 further comprising:
2 means for carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second
3 sessions.

1 32. (New) The device of claim 31 further comprising:
2 means for originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single
3 sourcing entity.

1 33. (New) The device of claim 27 further comprising:
2 means for originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single
3 sourcing entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more
4 different destination entities.

1 34. (New) The device of claim 33 further comprising:
2 means for carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context
3 over the first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.

1 35. (New) A method for operating a router comprising:
2 receiving a setup message indicating that a first session has been initiated by a
3 network device, the first session being identified by a first session ID written into the
4 setup message;
5 receiving a setup message indicating that at least one second session has been ini-
6 tiated using the session ID of the first session; and
7 sharing resources between the first session and the second session in response to
8 both the first and second sessions having the same session ID.

1 36. (New) The method of claim 35 further comprising:
2 including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a resource
3 reservation engine, and
4 storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the resource reser-
5 vation engine.

1 37. (New) The method of claim 36 further comprising:
2 identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic
3 flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 38. (New) The method of claim 37 further comprising:
2 utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification standard in the
3 resource reservation engine, and
4 inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associated with the
5 given session.

1 39. (New) The method of claim 38 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second sessions.

1 40. (New) The method of claim 39 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity.

1 41. (New) The method of claim 35 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more different
4 destination entities.

1 42. (New) The method of claim 41 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context over the
3 first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.

1 43. (New) A method for operating a router comprising:
2 means for receiving a setup message indicating that a first session has been initi-
3 ated by a network device, the first session being identified by a first session ID written
4 into the setup message;
5 means for receiving a setup message indicating that at least one second session
6 has been initiated using the session ID of the first session; and
7 means for sharing resources between the first session and the second session in
8 response to both the first and second sessions having the same session ID.

1 44. (New) The method of claim 43 further comprising:
2 means for including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a
3 resource reservation engine, and

4 means for storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the re-
5 source reservation engine.

1 45. (New) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
2 identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic
3 flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 46. (New) The method of claim 45 further comprising:
2 utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification standard in the
3 resource reservation engine, and
4 inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associated with the
5 given session.

1 47. (New) The method of claim 46 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second sessions.

1 48. (New) The method of claim 47 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity.

1 49. (New) The method of claim 45 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more different
4 destination entities.

1 50. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context over the
3 first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.

1 51. (New) A system for reserving resources in transmitting messages through a com-
2 puter network comprising:

3 an intermediate network device adapted to (a) initiate a first session, (b) identify
4 the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into packets of the first
5 session, (c) initiate one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first session,
6 and (d) transmit a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources be-
7 tween the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second ses-
8 sions having the same session ID.

1 52. (New) The system of claim 51 wherein a data structure is included for storing
2 information for the sessions in a resource reservation engine, and wherein the session ID
3 for each session is stored in the data structure in the resource reservation engine.

1 53. (New) The system of claim 52 wherein a given session is identified by a source
2 address of an entity sourcing the traffic flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 54. (New) The system of claim 53 wherein a Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP)
2 specification standard is utilized in the resource reservation engine, and wherein the ses-
3 sion ID of a session is inserted in a RSVP Path message associated with the given ses-
4 sion.

1 55. (New) The system of claim 54 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions carry voice information.

1 56. (New) The system of claim 55 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions originate from a single sourcing entity.

1 57. (New) The system of claim 51 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions originate from a single sourcing entity and wherein the first and the one or more
3 second sessions is directed to two or more different destination entities.

1 58. (New) The system of claim 57 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions carry voice information and correspond to a call waiting context.

1 59. (New) A router comprising:
2 a packet/frame receiver transmitter object configured to receive a setup message
3 indicating that a first session has been initiated by a network device, the first session be-
4 ing identified by a first session ID written into the setup message;
5 a packet/frame receiver transmitter object configured to receive a setup message
6 indicating that at least one second session has been initiated using the session ID of the
7 first session; and
8 a resource reservation engine configured to share resources between the first ses-
9 sion and the second session in response to both the first and second sessions having the
10 same session ID.

1 60. (New) The router of claim 59 wherein
2 the resource reservation engine includes a data structure for storing information
3 for the sessions, and
4 the resource reservation engine stores the session ID for each session in the data
5 structure.

1 61. (New) The router of claim 60 wherein a given session is identified by a source
2 address of an entity sourcing the traffic flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 62. (New) The router of claim 61 wherein:
2 the resource reservation engine utilizes the Resource reSerVation Protocol
3 (RSVP) specification standard, and
4 the session group ID of a given session is contained in a RSVP Path message as-
5 sociated with the given session.

1 63. (New) The router of claim 62 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions carry voice information.

1 64. (New) The router of claim 63 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions originate from a single sourcing entity .

1 65. (New) The router of claim 59 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions originate from a single sourcing entity and direct the first and the one or more sec-
3 ond sessions to two or more different destination entities.

1 66. (New) The router of claim 65 wherein the first and the one or more second ses-
2 sions carry voice information and correspond to a call waiting context.

1 67. (New) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for
4 sharing resources reserved for a first session with a second session in a computer network
5 having a plurality of entities interconnected by a plurality of intermediate network de-
6 vices having one or more resources for use in forwarding network traffic corresponding
7 to sessions, the method having the steps of:
8 receiving a first resource reservation message associated with a first session, the
9 first resource reservation message specifying a session group identifier (ID);
10 storing the session group ID of the first resource reservation message;

11 reserving resources for use with the first session;
12 receiving a second resource reservation message associated with a second session,
13 the second resource reservation message corresponding to a session group ID;
14 comparing the session group ID associated with the second resource message with
15 the stored session group ID specified by the first resource reservation message; and
16 if the two session group IDs match, sharing the resources reserved for use with
17 the first session with the second session.

1 68. (New) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for
4 sharing resources reserved for a first session with a second session in a sourcing entity
5 interconnected with two or more receiving entities by a computer network having a plu-
6 rality of intermediate network devices, the devices having one or more resources for use
7 in forwarding network traffic corresponding to sessions, the method having the steps of:
8 generating a first resource reservation message associated with the first session;
9 loading the first resource reservation message with a session group identifier (ID);
10 sending the first resource reservation message with the session group ID toward a
11 first receiving entity;
12 generating a second resource reservation message associated with the second ses-
13 sion;
14 loading the first resource reservation message with the session group identifier
15 used in the first resource reservation message; and
16 sending the second resource reservation message with the session group ID to-
17 ward a second receiving entity,
18 whereby resources reserved for use with the first session are shared with the sec-
19 ond session.

1 69. (New) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for re-
4 serving resources by a network device for transmission of messages through a computer
5 network, the method having the steps of:
6 initiating a first session by the network device;
7 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
8 packets of the first session;
9 initiating one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first session;
10 and
11 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
12 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
13 sessions having the same session ID.

1 70. (New) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for op-
4 erating a router, the method having the steps of:
5 initiating a first session by the network device;
6 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
7 packets of the first session;
8 initiating one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first session;
9 and
10 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
11 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
12 sessions having the same session ID.

13

1 71. (New) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network, comprising:
2 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
3 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for sharing resources reserved for a first
4 session with a second session in a computer network having a plurality of entities inter-
5 connected by a plurality of intermediate network devices having one or more resources
6 for use in forwarding network traffic corresponding to sessions, the method having the
7 steps of:

8 receiving a first resource reservation message associated with a first session, the
9 first resource reservation message specifying a session group identifier (ID);
10 storing the session group ID of the first resource reservation message;
11 reserving resources for use with the first session;
12 receiving a second resource reservation message associated with a second session,
13 the second resource reservation message corresponding to a session group ID;
14 comparing the session group ID associated with the second resource message with
15 the stored session group ID specified by the first resource reservation message; and
16 if the two session group IDs match, sharing the resources reserved for use with
17 the first session with the second session.

1 72. (New) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network, comprising:
2 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
3 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for sharing resources reserved for a first
4 session with a second session in a sourcing entity interconnected with two or more re-
5 ceiving entities by a computer network having a plurality of intermediate network de-
6 vices, the devices having one or more resources for use in forwarding network traffic cor-
7 responding to sessions, the method having the steps of:

8 generating a first resource reservation message associated with the first session;
9 loading the first resource reservation message with a session group identifier (ID);
10 sending the first resource reservation message with the session group ID toward a
11 first receiving entity;

12 generating a second resource reservation message associated with the second ses-
13 sion;

14 loading the first resource reservation message with the session group identifier
15 used in the first resource reservation message; and

16 sending the second resource reservation message with the session group ID to-
17 ward a second receiving entity,

18 whereby resources reserved for use with the first session are shared with the sec-
19 ond session.

1 73. (New) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network, comprising:
2 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
3 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for reserving resources by a network de-
4 vice for transmission of messages through a computer network, the method having the
5 steps of:

6 initiating a first session by the network device;

7 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
8 packets of the first session;

9 initiating one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first session;
10 and

11 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
12 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
13 sessions having the same session ID.

1 74. (New) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network, comprising:
2 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
3 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for operating a router, the method having
4 the steps of:

5 initiating a first session by the network device;

6 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
7 packets of the first session;
8 initiating one or more second sessions using the session ID of the first session;
9 and
10 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
11 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
12 sessions having the same session ID.